

RAVALLI REPUBLIC

RECEIVED

Date: June 8, 2007

JUN 11 2007

To: Commissioner Greg Chilcott
Commissioner Alan Thompson
Commissioner Howard Lyons
Sherriff Chris Hoffman
Attorney George Corn
Regina Plettenburg
Skip Rosenthal
From: Sharon Schroeder
Re: Erroneous Ads

Ravalli County Commissioners

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I want to apologize to each of you for the deceptive ads Michael Spreadbury was able to place in the Ravalli Republic on Wednesday, June 6th. They should not have appeared. They especially should not have been printed in the same format as valid county employment offerings.

Mr. Spreadbury represented himself as though he had the authority to place the ads. Our customer service representative should have thought it odd the date was so far in the future, but she has only been in her position a few weeks, and did not expect someone to be deceptive with an ad. We are all wiser now.

I met with Skip on Wednesday and we agreed people should not be using classified ads to make political statements. If they wish to make a political statement, they can advertise in the main section of the paper where the political ads appear, and they can follow the guidelines of the state of Montana, by including a disclaimer to acknowledge who is paying for the ad.

I informed the Missoulian that Mr. Spreadbury may attempt to schedule future ads with them as well, and have informed them to contact Skip to verify the legitimacy of the ad if ever in question.

Again, I apologize for the misrepresentation. It was very deceptive. I hope the county and you as individuals have not been harmed as a result of this deception.

Thank you for your understanding.

